



# REQUEST FOR QUOTES

## Regional Wetland Mapping Assessment in Support of the New England Biological Assessment of Wetlands Work Group

### 1. Background

NEIWPCC is a regional commission that helps the states of the Northeast preserve and advance water quality. We engage and convene water quality professionals and other interested parties from New England and New York to collaborate on water, wastewater, and environmental science challenges across shared regions, ecosystems, and areas of expertise. Our mission is to advance clean water in the Northeast through collaboration with, and service to, our member states. NEIWPCC's vision is for clean and sustainable water throughout the Northeast. We base our work on the core values of leadership, collaboration, education, service, and science. Explore NEIWPCC's 2026-2030 Strategic Priorities and Goals [here](#).

The New England Biological Assessment of Wetlands Work Group (NEBAWWG) comprises wetland managers and scientists from state, federal, tribal, non-profit, and conservation organizations from across the Northeast that use and develop monitoring and assessment tools. NEIWPCC has managed NEBAWWG since its beginnings in the 1990s. NEBAWWG aims to increase access to methods, research, and data that inform regulatory and management decisions to ensure effective wetlands protection.

### 2. Project Goal

This project is being conducted in direct support of NEBAWWG. NEBAWWG's mission includes improving coordination among Northeast states, strengthening wetland monitoring and assessment programs, and promoting consistent technical approaches across the region. By compiling an interstate assessment of wetland mapping and monitoring and assessment (M&A) capabilities, this project aims to provide NEBAWWG members with a clear, comparable baseline of current datasets, methods, and program needs. The synthesis will help states benchmark their programs, identify shared challenges, and highlight opportunities for regional alignment and collaboration. Results will also enable NEBAWWG to more effectively communicate collective needs to federal partners, guide regional priorities, and support the development of coordinated remote sensing, condition assessment, and mapping initiatives. Overall, this project strengthens NEBAWWG's ability to serve as a regional forum for advancing wetland science and decision-support across the Northeast.

### 3. Tasks and Deliverables

#### 1. Quarterly Reports

The contractor will record project activities conducted during each federal fiscal quarter, delivered to the NEIWPCC project manager no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, April, July, and October during the duration of the project. NEIWPCC will provide guidelines and guidance as needed.

*Deliverable: Quarterly Reports provided to NEIWPCC Project Manager*

#### 2. Approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)

The NEIWPCC Quality Management Plan requires that Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) are developed and approved for all projects involving environmental information operations (i.e., collection, analysis, and/or manipulation of environmental data). The contractor will be responsible for developing the project QAPP and submitting it to EPA and NEIWPCC staff for review after the start of the contract period. NEIWPCC will provide guidelines and guidance for QAPP development, as needed. The QAPP must be approved by the EPA, the NEIWPCC Project Manager, and the NEIWPCC Quality Assurance Program Manager or Designee prior to any information collection or analysis. If your proposed project includes environmental information operations, development of the QAPP can be completed as a task under this project and should be included in the proposal narrative, timeline, and budget. While preparing your proposal, please account for the additional time and resources necessary for QAPP development. Allow a minimum of 30 days for the development of your QAPP and 90 days for the review and approval of your QAPP by NEIWPCC and EPA QA officers. It is appropriate for an applicant to utilize or build upon an existing, relevant, approved QAPP if one exists. For more information about QAPPs, see [NEIWPCC's Quality Management Program](#) and [EPA's Quality Assurance Plan Standard](#).

*Deliverable: QAPP approved by NEIWPCC and EPA.*

### 3. Review State Specific Wetland Mapping

NEBAWWG has seven member states across the Northeast: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The purpose of this task is to summarize the current status of wetland mapping products and efforts related to M&A programs across these Northeast states, identifying pertinent barriers and limitations for each specific state. This will support regional level analysis in addition to facilitating interstate knowledge and program status exchange.

For each state, the contractor will:

- Identify existing wetland mapping products and mechanisms (e.g., NWI, state maps, local inventories).
- Document mapping dates, scale/resolution, completeness, update cycles, and metadata quality.
- Identify gaps in wetland extent, condition, and functional mapping.
- Document key challenges and barriers.
- Perform 1-2 hours of outreach per state (e.g., email, phone call, or video call). NEIWPCC will provide facilitation support for the outreach.
- Provide tailored recommendations for program enhancement, federal dataset integration, and application of emerging methods. Federal dataset integration and emerging methods recommendations may need to be expanded or revisited following completion of Task 4 and/or Task 5.

*Deliverable: Draft report with seven individual state wetland mapping summaries that each address the above items (1-2 pages for each summary).*

### 4. Federal Datasets and Emerging Methods Review

- Compile a concise overview of federal and national datasets useful for wetland mapping.
- Assess applicability, limitations, and integration potential for Northeast states.
- Highlight examples of successful state use where relevant.

- Provide a brief overview of emerging methods relevant to wetland mapping (e.g., machine learning classification, object-based image analysis, SAR, lidar-derived hydrology models), including their applicability, data requirements, limitations, and examples of use by Northeast states.

*Deliverable: Draft report of the federal datasets and emerging methods review (8-10 pages).*

#### 5: Regional Analysis and Recommendations

- Compare approaches across states to identify:
  - Shared barriers
  - Opportunities for regional harmonization
  - Gaps that could be addressed collaboratively
- Develop short-, medium-, and long-term recommendations, such as:
  - Regional remote sensing initiatives
  - Cross-state wetland mapping alignment
  - Data-sharing frameworks
  - Joint training or technical assistance needs

*Deliverable: Draft technical report of the regional analysis and recommendations (3-5 pages)*

#### 6: Approved Final Report

- Consolidate the above draft reports into a final report (~20–30 pages).
- NEBAWWG and NEIWPCC will review and provide feedback to be incorporated into a final approved version.
- Present findings to NEBAWWG in a virtual meeting.

*Deliverable: Final approved report and presentation to NEBAWWG.*

#### **4. Summary of Deliverables**

1. Quarterly reports provided to the NEIWPCC project manager
2. NEIWPCC and EPA approved QAPP
3. Seven state wetland mapping summaries (ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NY) draft report
4. Federal datasets and emerging methods draft report
5. Regional analysis and recommendations draft report
6. Approved final report (with executive summary)
7. Presentation of findings at NEBAWWG meeting

Deliverables should be provided to the NEIWPCC project manager. The NEIWPCC project manager will distribute draft deliverables to a technical NEBAWWG sub-committee for review and feedback. The NEIWPCC project manager will distribute the final report and presentation to NEBAWWG and state partners.

#### **5. Period of Performance**

- Expected duration: 9-12 months from contract execution.
- All deliverables must be completed no later than **July 31, 2027**.

#### **6. Budget**

- Up to **\$27,500** of funding is available.

## **7. Preferred Contractor Qualifications**

- Demonstrated understanding of wetland monitoring & assessment (M&A) programs.
- Experience with wetland mapping and geospatial data.
- Knowledge of remote sensing and emerging mapping methods.
- Experience working with state or regional environmental programs.
- Demonstrated ability to engage with state agencies, synthesize state-specific program information, and conduct structured interviews.
- Experience with multi-state or regional projects in the Northeast.
- Strong synthesis and technical writing skills.
- Familiarity with federal wetland and geospatial programs.
- Project management and communication.

## **8. Submission**

Quote proposals should include (1) cover letter, (2) project narrative, (3) timeline for meeting specific tasks, and (4) description of qualifications.

**Please submit a descriptive, but concise proposal and quote by Friday, March 20, 4 p.m. EST** using the [Bid Submittal Form](#) on the NEIWPCC webpage. If you are experiencing difficulties with the online submission, please contact Alexander DuMont, NEIWPCC environmental analyst, at [adumont@neiwpcc.org](mailto:adumont@neiwpcc.org). Questions regarding the RFQ can also be directed to Alexander DuMont, NEIWPCC environmental analyst.